I. AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraphs beginning at line 12, page 15 as follows:

--Chromosomal DNA was isolated from the strain ATCC13032 by the conventional methods (Eikmanns et al., Microbiology 140: 1817-1828 (1994)). The polymerase chain reaction (PCR) was used to amplify a DNA fragment carrying the lysE gene. The following primer oligonucleotides were chosen for the PCR on the basis of the lysE gene sequence known for C. glutamicum (Vrljic et al., Molecular Microbiology 22(5), 815-826 (1996)) (accession number X96471):

LysBam1:
5' CTC GAG AGC (GGA TCC) GCG CTG ACT CAC C 3' (SEQ ID NO: 7)

LysBam2:
5' GGA GAG TAC GGC (GGA TCC) ACC GTG ACC 3' (SEQ ID NO: 8)—

Please amend the paragraphs beginning at line 32, page 16 as follows:

--The sequencing was carried out with plasmid pJC25 (EP-B 0 435 132) using a primer oligonucleotide which binds in the region of the known dapB sequence (accession number X67737). The sequence of the sequencing primer used was:

5' GAA CGC CAA CCT TGA TTC C 3' (SEQ ID NO: 9)—

Please amend the paragraphs beginning at line 12, page 17 as follows:

--The DNA sequence obtained was used to choose a second primer in order to obtain further sequence data upstream from the transcription start. The following primer was chosen for this purpose:

5' CTT TGC CGC CGT TGG GTT C 3' (SEQ ID NO: 10)--

Please amend the paragraphs beginning at line 22, page 17 as follows:

--The polymerase chain reaction was used to amplify the dapB gene. For this purpose, two primer oligonucleotides, chosen on the basis of the known DNA sequence of the dapB gene, were synthesized by MWG Biotech:

P-dap:
5' (AAG CTT) AGG TTG TAG GCG TTG AGC 3' (SEQ ID NO: 11)

dapall:
5' TTA ACT TGT TCG GCC ACA GC 3' (SEQ ID NO: 12)--

Please amend the paragraphs beginning at line 17, page 26 as follows:

--The Quickchange site directed mutagenesis kit from Stratagene was used for the mutagenesis of the promoter region. The following primers were constructed with the aid of said dapA sequence and used for the mutagenesis:

For the preparation of pSP72::dapA (MC20)

Primer dap1 for MC20
CCA AAT GAG AGA TGG TAA CCT TGA ACT CTA TGA GCA (SEQ ID NO: 13)

Primer dap2 for MC20
GTG CTC ATA GAG TTC AAG GTT ACC ATC TTC CCT CAT TTG G (SEQ ID NO: 14)

For the preparation of pSP72::dapA(MA16)
Primer dap3 for MA16
CCA AAT GAG GGA AGA AGG TAT AAT TGA ACT CTA TGA
GCA (SEQ ID NO: 15)

Primer dap4 for MA16
GTG CTC ATA GAG TTC AAT TAT ACC TTC TTC CCT CAT
TTG G (SEQ ID NO: 16) --